

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cody Nichols for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING THE PORT OF BALTIMORE ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Port of Baltimore on its 300th Anniversary.

Baltimore and the state of Maryland are home to some of the most cherished and enduring symbols of our Nation.

It was during the War of 1812 that Francis Scott Key while sequestered on a boat off the shores of Fort McHenry in Baltimore was inspired by the American Flag to write our National Anthem, the Star Spangled Banner. It was also during that war that Fort McHenry protected the City of Baltimore and the Port of Baltimore.

I believe that today, Flag Day, is an appropriate day to recognize the Port of Baltimore on its 300th Anniversary.

Established in 1706, the Port of Baltimore is here today because it was successfully defended by the American soldiers and militiamen at Fort McHenry and North Point during the War of 1812.

Today, the Port of Baltimore is one of America's busiest international deepwater ports and serves as a critical anchor for Baltimore and the Inner Harbor. It is also an economic engine for the state. From cars to tractors, from coal to paper, from sugar to aluminum, the Port of Baltimore handles 400,000 containers a year filled with goods that help us in our everyday lives. The Port employs more than 19,000 people, supports more than 42,000 jobs related to the maritime industry, and generates more than \$2 billion in revenue annually.

A busy Port has ensured a buzzing economy and more jobs for Maryland residents. The hard work and dedication of Baltimore's port workers together with the support of local, state, and federal leaders have ensured that the Port will be a success today as well as tomorrow.

It is impossible to comment on the success of the Port of Baltimore without recognizing the strong commitment to the Port by former Congresswoman Helen Delich Bently. Recently Governor Robert J. Ehrlich, Jr. of Maryland announced that the Port will be renamed the "Helen Delich Bently Port of Baltimore." Former Congresswoman Bently served in the United States House of Representatives from 1985–1995 representing Maryland's Second Congressional District and has since become one of the Port's most staunch supporters.

In honor of the Port of Baltimore, I am introducing a resolution, with the support of the entire Maryland Delegation in the House, to honor the Port of Baltimore on its 300th Anniversary.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the Maryland Delegation and honor the Port of Baltimore on this patriotic day.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 12, 2006, I was unable to fly to Washington, D.C. for votes. As a result, I missed votes on this day and some votes before returning Tuesday, June 13, 2006. I would have voted on the following rollcall votes, had I been present.

Monday, June 12, 2006:

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended: 362–1 (Roll Call 251). Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended: 362–1 (Roll Call 252). Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People's Republic of China.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended: 363–1 (Roll Call 253). Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People's Republic of China.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree: 364–0 (Roll Call 254). Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere.

AYE: On Ordering the Previous Question: 204–165 (Roll Call 255). Waiving points of order against consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended: 409–0 (Roll Call 256). Commending the Government of Canada for its renewed commitment to the Global War on Terror.

AYE: On Agreeing to the Conference Report: 351–67 (Roll Call 257). Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AYE: On Agreeing to the Resolution: 221–194 (Roll Call 258). Waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: 415–1 (Roll Call 259). To provide for certain access to national crime information databases by schools and educational agencies for employment purposes, with respect to individuals who work with children.

AYE: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended: 407–0 (Roll Call 260). Supporting responsible fatherhood, promoting marriage, and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father's Day.

#### RECOGNIZING JOSH SUTTON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Josh Sutton, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 102, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Josh has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Josh has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Josh Sutton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### MINE IMPROVEMENT AND NEW EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

##### HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2006

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, we must encourage the development of new mine safety technologies and not hinder advances. Remember that when an accident occurs underground all power is shut off and our miners are working in the dark, perhaps unaware of what has taken place, and under stressful conditions.

Recent discussions about advancing mine safety technology have focused on a few distinct areas including self-contained self-rescuers, emergency shelters, two-way communications equipment, tracking devices, and lifelines.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, I would like to address the references to self-contained self-rescuers in section 2 and section 6 of S. 2803. It is important to clarify that in no way should the requirements under section 2 discourage improving the design of self-contained self-rescuers.

A self-contained self-rescuer, SCSR, is a respiratory device used by miners for the purpose of escape during mine fires and explosions; it provides the wearer a closed-circuit supply of breathable air for a period of time that varies from model to model.

While the current MSHA regulations require that miners be provided with SCSRs that protect for a least 1 hour, some SCSRs on the market provide longer protection, approaching 2 hours, and research is under way to develop longer lasting SCSRs.

Mr. Speaker, in a 2001 study, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH, reported that out of 214 miners surveyed 38 percent had been notified to evacuate a mine because of fire or explosion during their career. Data provided by the U.S.